

Auditing Procedures Report

Issued under P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended and P.A. 71 of 1919, as amended.

Local Unit of Government Type <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> City <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twp <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Local Unit Name Columbus Township	County St. Clair County
Fiscal Year End March 31, 2008	Opinion Date June 11, 2008	Date Audit Report Submitted to State June 13, 2008	

We affirm that:

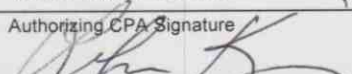
We are certified public accountants licensed to practice in Michigan.

We further affirm the following material, "no" responses have been disclosed in the financial statements, including the notes, or in the Management Letter (report of comments and recommendations).

- YES NO Check each applicable box below. (See instructions for further detail.)
- ☒ ☐ All required component units/funds/agencies of the local unit are included in the financial statements and/or disclosed in the reporting entity notes to the financial statements as necessary.
 - ☒ ☐ There are no accumulated deficits in one or more of this unit's unreserved fund balances/unrestricted net assets (P.A. 275 of 1980) or the local unit has not exceeded its budget for expenditures.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit is in compliance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts issued by the Department of Treasury.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit has adopted a budget for all required funds.
 - ☒ ☐ A public hearing on the budget was held in accordance with State statute.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit has not violated the Municipal Finance Act, an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act, or other guidance as issued by the Local Audit and Finance Division.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit has not been delinquent in distributing tax revenues that were collected for another taxing unit.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit only holds deposits/investments that comply with statutory requirements.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit has no illegal or unauthorized expenditures that came to our attention as defined in the *Bulletin for Audits of Local Units of Government in Michigan*, as revised (see Appendix H of Bulletin).
 - ☒ ☐ There are no indications of defalcation, fraud or embezzlement, which came to our attention during the course of our audit that have not been previously communicated to the Local Audit and Finance Division (LAFD). If there is such activity that has not been communicated, please submit a separate report under separate cover.
 - ☐ ☒ The local unit is free of repeated comments from previous years.
 - ☒ ☐ The audit opinion is UNQUALIFIED.
 - ☒ ☐ The local unit has complied with GASB 34 or GASB 34 as modified by MCGAA Statement #7 and other generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
 - ☒ ☐ The board or council approves all invoices prior to payment as required by charter or statute.
 - ☒ ☐ To our knowledge, bank reconciliations that were reviewed were performed timely.

If a local unit of government (authorities and commissions included) is operating within the boundaries of the audited entity and is not included in this or any other audit report, nor do they obtain a stand-alone audit, please enclose the name(s), address(es), and a description(s) of the authority and/or commission.

I, the undersigned, certify that this statement is complete and accurate in all respects.

We have enclosed the following:	Enclosed	Not Required (enter a brief justification)	
Financial Statements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
The letter of Comments and Recommendations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communication with Those Charged with Governance.	
Other (Describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) Lehn L. King, C.P.A.		Telephone Number 989-635-3113	
Street Address 3531 Main Street		City Marlette	State MI
Authorizing CPA Signature 		Printed Name Lehn L. King, C.P.A.	Zip 48453
		License Number A248781	

Township of Columbus

St. Clair County, Michigan

Audited Financial Report
March 31, 2008

Lehn L. King

Certified Public Accountant
Marlette, Michigan

Township of Columbus
Annual Financial Report
For The Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2008

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Members of the Township Board
Columbus Township
St. Clair, Michigan

Independent Auditor's Report

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Columbus, Michigan as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township of Columbus, Michigan's management. My responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluation the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinions.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Columbus, Michigan as of March 31, 2008 and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis, and the budgetary comparison schedules, as identified in the table of contents, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplemental information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. I have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management, regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplemental information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

The Audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Township of Columbus, Michigan's basic financial statements. The accompanying other supplemental information, as identified in the table of contents, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The other supplemental information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

As described in Note 1, the Township has implemented a new financial reporting model, as required by the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*, and related statements, as of April 1, 2004.

Lehn King

Lehn L. King
Certified Public Accountant

June 11, 2008

Township of Columbus

Columbus, Michigan

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS LETTER

Our discussion and analysis of the Township of Columbus's financial performance provides an overview of the Township's financial activities for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008. Please read it in conjunction with the Township's financial statements.

Financial Highlights

The Township is in a good financial position with a General Fund Balance of \$1,324,735.

Using this Report

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No.34. GASB Statement 34 implements a new model of financial reporting for state and local governments designed to enhance the usefulness of the Township's annual report.

The Township as a Whole

The Township of Columbus's fund balances are as follows:

	March 31, 2008	March 31, 2007
General Fund	\$ 1,324,735	\$ 1,244,594
Building Inspection Fund	47,239	44,139
Garbage Collection Fund	406	(2,461)
Total for Township	<u>\$ 1,372,379</u>	<u>\$ 1,286,272</u>

Township of Columbus

Columbus, Michigan

Governmental Activities

The Township of Columbus's Revenues and Expenditures can be summarized as follows:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building Inspection Fund</u>	<u>Garbage Collection Fund</u>	<u>Total Governmental Activities</u>
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	\$ 1,244,594	\$ 44,139	\$ (2,461)	\$ 1,286,272
Revenue Collected				
Intergovernmental Revenue	317,513	-	-	317,513
Property Taxes	203,230	-	-	203,230
Special Assessments	-	-	147,053	147,053
Charges for Services	11,807	27,960	-	39,767
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Other	125,053	-	-	125,053
Total Revenue Collected	<u>657,603</u>	<u>27,960</u>	<u>147,053</u>	<u>832,615</u>
Expenditures				
General Government	296,006	-	-	296,006
Public Safety	95,733	24,860	-	120,593
Public Works	178,844	-	144,187	323,031
Recreation & Culture	6,879	-	-	6,879
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	<u>577,462</u>	<u>24,860</u>	<u>144,187</u>	<u>746,508</u>
Fund Balance - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 1,324,734</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 47,239</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 406</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,372,379</u></u>

Township of Columbus

Columbus, Michigan

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget and Rates

The Township of Columbus's 2008/2009 adopted budget is as follows:

	General Fund		Building Inspection Fund	
	March 31,		March 31,	
	2008/2009	2007/2008	2008/2009	2007/2008
Revenue				
Intergovernmental Revenue	312,000	316,349	-	-
Property Taxes/Special Assessments	205,500	271,769	-	-
Charges for Services	44,443	15,400	29,700	47,000
Transfer	70,000	-	-	-
Other	24,000	55,904	-	-
Total Revenue Collected	655,943	659,422	29,700	47,000
Expenditures				
General Government	283,626	289,266	-	-
Public Safety	156,500	162,000	31,700	45,400
Public Works	204,700	167,000	-	-
Recreation & Culture	2,000	3,700	-	-
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	646,826	621,966	31,700	45,400
Net Over/Under Budget	\$ 9,117	\$ 37,456	\$ (2,000)	\$ 1,600

The Township of Columbus's General Fund budget for next year is approximately the same budget as a year ago.

Contacting the Township

This report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to demonstrate the Township's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Township office at 1732 Bauman Road, Columbus, Michigan or by telephone at (586) 727-2055.

Roderick D. McCue, Jr.
Township of Columbus Supervisor

Township of Columbus

Statement of Net Assets (Deficit)

March 31, 2008

	Primary Government Governmental Activities
<u>Assets</u>	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,109,565.74
Property Taxes Receivable	17,888.60
Due From Other Funds	269,879.84
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	<u>274,271.03</u>
 Total Assets	 1,671,605.21
 <u>Liabilities</u>	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 24,954.95</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>24,954.95</u>
 Net Assets (Deficit)	
 Invested in Capital Assets - Net of Related Debt	274,271.03
Restricted:	
Restricted for Parks & Recreation	56,280.75
Restricted for Land Reclamation	28,882.00
Unrestricted	<u>1,287,216.48</u>
 Total Net Assets (Deficit)	 <u><u>\$ 1,646,650.26</u></u>

The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense)
		Charges for	Operating	Capital	Revenue &
	Expenses	Services	Grants &	Grants &	Changes in
			Contributions	Contributions	Net Assets
<u>Functions/Programs</u>					<u>Primary Government</u>
Primary Government:					<u>Governmental</u>
Governmental Activities:					<u>Activities</u>
General Government	\$ 301,532.46	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (301,532.46)
Public Safety	120,592.60	39,767.35	-	-	(80,825.25)
Public Works	323,030.75	-	-	-	(323,030.75)
Recreation & Culture	6,878.87	-	-	-	(6,878.87)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Governmental Activities</u>	<u>\$ 752,034.68</u>	<u>\$ 39,767.35</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(712,267.33)</u>
General Revenues:					
Property Taxes & Special Assessments					\$ 350,282.30
State Shared Revenues					317,513.00
Interest					59,731.68
Other Revenues					65,321.38
Transfers					-
Total General Revenues, Special Items & Transfers					<u>792,848.36</u>
Change in Net Assets					80,581.03
Net Assets (Deficit) - Beginning of Year					<u>1,566,069.23</u>
Net Assets (Deficit) - End of Year					<u>\$ 1,646,650.26</u>

The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus

Governmental Funds

Balance Sheet

March 31, 2008

	General Fund	Building Inspection Fund	Garbage Collection Fund	Totals Governmental Funds
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash & Certificates of Deposit	\$ 1,062,106.31	\$ 47,459.43	\$ -	\$ 1,109,565.74
Property Taxes Receivable	8,946.20	-	8,942.40	17,888.60
Other Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-
Due From Trust & Agency	247,727.13	-	3,699.14	251,426.27
Due From Tax Account	18,453.57	-	-	18,453.57
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$ 1,337,233.21</u>	<u>\$ 47,459.43</u>	<u>\$ 12,641.54</u>	<u>\$ 1,397,334.18</u>
<u>Liabilities & Fund Equity</u>				
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accrued Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,637.88	\$ 220.43	\$ -	\$ 1,858.31
Accounts Payable	10,860.64	-	12,236.00	23,096.64
Due To Other Funds	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>12,498.52</u>	<u>220.43</u>	<u>12,236.00</u>	<u>24,954.95</u>
<u>Fund Equity</u>				
Fund Balances				
Reserved - Parks & Recreation	56,280.75	-	-	56,280.75
Designated - Land Reclamation	28,882.00	-	-	28,882.00
Undesignated - Unreserved	1,239,571.94	47,239.00	405.54	1,287,216.48
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Fund Balances</u>	<u>1,324,734.69</u>	<u>47,239.00</u>	<u>405.54</u>	<u>1,372,379.23</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Liabilities & Fund Equity</u>	<u>\$ 1,337,233.21</u>	<u>\$ 47,459.43</u>	<u>\$ 12,641.54</u>	<u>\$ 1,397,334.18</u>

The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus
Governmental Funds
Reconciliation of Fund Balances to the
Statement of Net Assets (Deficit)
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

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Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	\$ 1,372,379.23
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Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of
Net Assets (Deficit) are different because:

Capital Assets used in Governmental Activities are not Financial Resources and are not reported in the Funds	<u>274,271.03</u>
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Net Assets of Governmental Activities	<u><u>1,646,650.26</u></u>
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The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus
Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, And Changes
in Fund Balances
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

	General Fund	Building Inspection Fund	Garbage Collection Fund	Totals Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes	\$ 203,229.50	\$ -	\$ -	203,229.50
State Shared Revenue	317,513.00	-	-	317,513.00
Special Assessments	-	-	147,052.80	147,052.80
Charges for Services	9,570.00	-	-	9,570.00
Permits & Fees	2,237.50	27,959.85	-	30,197.35
Interest Earnings	59,731.68	-	-	59,731.68
Other Revenues	65,321.38	-	-	65,321.38
<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>657,603.06</u>	<u>27,959.85</u>	<u>147,052.80</u>	<u>832,615.71</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	296,006.26	-	-	296,006.26
Public Safety	95,732.95	24,859.65	-	120,592.60
Publics Works	178,844.01	-	144,186.74	323,030.75
Recreation & Culture	6,878.87	-	-	6,878.87
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>577,462.09</u>	<u>24,859.65</u>	<u>144,186.74</u>	<u>746,508.48</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	80,140.97	3,100.20	2,866.06	86,107.23
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</u>				
Operating Transfers In (Out)	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	80,140.97	3,100.20	2,866.06	86,107.23
<u>Fund Balances - Beginning of Year</u>	<u>1,244,593.72</u>	<u>44,138.80</u>	<u>(2,460.52)</u>	<u>1,286,272.00</u>
<u>Fund Balances - End of Year</u>	<u>\$ 1,324,734.69</u>	<u>\$ 47,239.00</u>	<u>\$ 405.54</u>	<u>\$ 1,372,379.23</u>

The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus
Governmental Funds
Reconciliation of Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Activities
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$ 86,107.23
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Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of
Activities are different because:

Governmental Funds report Capital Outlays as Expenditures in the Statement of Activities, these costs are capitalized and allocated over their estimated useful lives as Depreciation	-
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Depreciation is an Expenditure for the Statement of Activities, but is not reported in the Governmental Funds	<u>(5,526.20)</u>
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Net Assets of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 80,581.03</u></u>
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The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus

Statement of Net Assets (Deficit)

Fiduciary Funds

March 31, 2008

	Fiduciary Fund Types		
	Agency Funds		
	Trust & Agency Fund	Current Tax Collection Fund	Totals March 31, 2008
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash - Savings & Certificates	\$ 298,912.62	\$ 18,453.57	\$ 317,366.19
Due From Other Funds	-	-	-
<u>Total Assets</u>	\$ 298,912.62	\$ 18,453.57	\$ 317,366.19
<u>Liabilities & Fund Balance</u>			
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Due To General Fund	\$ 247,727.13	\$ 18,453.57	\$ 266,180.70
Due To Garbage Collection Fund	3,699.14	-	3,699.14
Due To Others	47,486.35	-	47,486.35
<u>Total Liabilities</u>	298,912.62	18,453.57	317,366.19
<u>Fund Balances</u>			
Unreserved & Undesignated	-	-	-
<u>Total Fund Balances</u>	-	-	-
<u>Total Liabilities & Fund Balances</u>	\$ 298,912.62	\$ 18,453.57	\$ 317,366.19

The notes are an integral part of the statements.

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

The accounting methods and procedures adopted by the Township of Columbus, St. Clair County, Michigan, conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental entities. The following notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the Townships Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Financial Reporting Entity

The Township was incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan and operates as a General Law Township, with a Township Board form of government. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, the financial statements of the reporting entity include those of the Township (the primary government) and its component units. The component units discussed below are included in the Township reporting entity because of the significance of their operational or financial relationships with the Township.

Component Units - In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, there are no component units of Government required to be included in the Financial Reporting Entity either as blended component units or discretely presented component units.

Government-wide and Fund Statements Fund

The Government-wide Financial Statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Assets (Deficit) and the Statement of Activities) report information on all the nonfiduciary activities of the Township (the primary government). The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function (governmental activities) or identifiable activity (business-type activities) are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or activity. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or activity. Taxes and other revenue items properly excluded from program revenues are reported as general revenue.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the Government-wide Financial Statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

The Township reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Building Inspection Fund – This fund is set up for the monitoring of Township construction. It is primarily funded through the collection of permits for the various types of construction.

Garbage Collection Fund – This fund is set up for the collection of Township garbage. It is primarily funded through the collection of a special assessment.

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

Additionally, the Township reports the following fund types:

Trust & Agency Funds - The Trust & Agency Fund accounts for assets held by the Township in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, organizations, or other governments.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The Government-wide Financial Statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become susceptible to accrual - that is, when they become both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period, generally collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Revenues susceptible to accrual include property taxes, intergovernmental revenues, special assessments, licenses, charges for services, and interest. All other revenue items are considered to be available only when cash is received by the Township. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

Cash - The Township does not pool cash resources of its various funds to facilitate the management of cash. Cash applicable to a particular fund is readily identifiable. The balance in the cash accounts is available to meet current operating requirements. Cash in excess of current requirements is invested in various interest-bearing securities and disclosed as part of the Township's investments.

Investments - Debt securities are valued at cost since it is generally the policy of the Township to hold such investments until they mature.

Due to and Due From Other Funds - Interfund receivables and payables arise from interfund transactions and are recorded by all funds affected in the period in which transactions are executed. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and the business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

Property Tax Revenues - Property taxes are levied on December 1 based on the assessed value of property as listed on the previous December 31. Assessed values are an approximation of market value. A revaluation of all real property must be made every year.

Vacation, Sick Leave, & Other Compensated Absences - The Township does not have any contracts or agreements with its employees or elected officials which require the payment of compensation during absence from duty nor do any such benefits vest to the right of the employee or elected official.

Capital Assets - Capital assets, which include buildings and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental column in the Government-wide Financial Statements. Capital assets are defined by the Township as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings & Building Improvements	20 to 50 years
Machinery & Equipment	3 to 20 years

Long-Term Obligations - In the Government-wide Financial Statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund statement of net assets. Bond premiums and discounts, issuance costs, and the deferred amount on refunding are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount and deferred amount on refunding. Bond issuance costs are reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the related debt.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

Fund Equity - In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Accounting Changes

GASB Statement No. 34 – Effective April 1, 2004, the Township implemented the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments* (GASB No. 34). Changes to the Township's financial statements as a result of GASB No. 34 are as follows:

- A management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) section providing analysis of the Township's overall financial position and results of operations has been included.
- Government-wide Financial Statements (statement of net assets (deficit) and statement of activities) prepared using full accrual accounting for all of the Township's activities have been provided.
- Capital assets in the governmental activities column of the statement of net assets (deficit) includes assets not previously accounted for by the Township as well as assets previously reported in the General Fixed Assets Account Group. In addition, the governmental activities column includes bonds and other long-term obligations previously reported in the General Long-term Debt Account Group.
- The fund financial statements focus on major funds rather than fund types.

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

2. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Budgetary Information

The Township is legally subject to the budgetary control requirements of State of Michigan P.A. 621 of 1978 (the Uniform Budgeting Act). The following statements represent a brief synopsis of the major provisions of this Act:

1. Budgets must be adopted for the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds.
2. The budgets must be balanced. The balanced budget may include a contribution to or appropriation from fund balance.
3. The budgets must be amended when necessary.
4. Debt cannot be entered into unless permitted by law.
5. Expenditures cannot exceed budget appropriations.
6. Expenditures cannot be made unless authorized in the budget.
7. Public hearings must be held before budget adoptions.

In the body of the financial statements, the Township actual expenditures and budgeted expenditures for the budgetary funds have been shown on a functional basis. The budget is used by the Township Board as a management tool during the year for all budgetary funds. The budgets are adopted on a cash basis, which is not consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Budgetary control is exercised at the departmental level. Budgets for the General Fund and the Special Revenue Funds are presented in the required supplemental information.

During the year ended March 31, 2008, the Township incurred expenditures in certain budgetary funds which were in excess of the amounts appropriated, as follows:

	Total <u>Appropriations</u>		Amount of <u>Expenditures</u>		Budget <u>Variance</u>
<u>General Fund</u>					
Clerk	\$ 25,258		\$ 25,390		\$ 132
Treasurer	43,243		44,645		1,402
General Administration	103,450		106,610		3,160
Township Hall & Grounds	12,600		13,386		786
Law Enforcement	3,500		3,600		100
Recreation & Culture	3,700		6,879		3,179
<u>Building Inspection Fund</u>					
Office Supplies	500		910		410
<u>Garbage Collection Fund</u>					
Contracted Services	-		144,187		144,187

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

3. Cash and Investments

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the Local Unit to deposit and invest in the accounts of Federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations; bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; United States government or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptance of United States banks; commercial paper rated by two standard rating agencies within the two highest classifications, which mature not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions which are rated investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan. Financial institutions eligible for deposit of public funds must maintain an office in Michigan.

The Township Board has designated three banks for the deposit of Township funds. The investment policy adopted by the Board was in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997. The Board has authorized investment in bank accounts and CDs, but not the remainder of State statutory authority as listed above. The Township's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority. All cash deposits and investments of the Township are held by the Township in the Township's name.

At year end, the deposits and investments were reported in the basic financial statements in the following categories:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Fiduciary - Trust & Agency Funds</u>	<u>Total Primary Government</u>
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,109,566	\$ 317,366	\$ 1,426,932

The breakdown between deposits and investments is as follows:

	<u>Primary Government</u>
Bank Deposits (Checking & Savings Accounts, CDs)	\$ 1,426,932

The bank balance of the primary government's deposits is \$1,426,932, of which \$200,000 is covered by federal depository insurance and \$-0- is collateralized with U.S. Treasury securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Township's name.

Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Township's deposits may not be returned to it. The Township does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At year end, the Township had approximately \$1,226,932 of bank deposits (certificates of deposit, checking, and savings accounts) that were uninsured and uncollateralized. The Township believes that due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance, it is impractical to insure all deposits. As a result, the Township evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits funds and assesses the level of risk of each institution; only those institutions with an acceptable estimated risk level are used as depositories.

Credit Risk

State law limits investments in commercial paper to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The Township's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices.

At year end, there were no investments reported in the basic financial statements.

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

4. Property Taxes

The Township is responsible for assessing, collecting, and distributing property taxes in accordance with enabling state legislation. Property taxes become a lien on the first day of December of the levy year and must be paid by the following February 14.

Property taxes are recognized in compliance with NCGAI-3 which states that such revenue is recorded when it becomes measurable and available.

The Township levied the following taxes:

General Government Services 0.7326 mills

Special Assessment District:

Garbage Collection per Household \$110.40

5. Capital Assets

Capital Assets activity of the Township's governmental activities was as follows:

	<u>Balance April 1, 2007</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals & Adjustments</u>	<u>Balance March 31, 2008</u>
Governmental Activities:				
Capital Assets not being Depreciated - Land	\$ 121,447	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121,447
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings & Improvements	\$ 193,460	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 193,460
Office Equipment	7,380	-	-	7,380
Total Capital Assets being Depreciated	200,840	-	-	200,840
Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings & Improvements	37,324	4,050	-	41,374
Office Equipment	5,166	1,476	-	6,642
Total Accumulated Depreciation	42,490	5,526	-	48,016
Net Capital Assets Being Depreciated	<u>158,350</u>	<u>(5,526)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>152,824</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 279,797</u>	<u>\$ (5,526)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 274,271</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental Activities:

General Government	\$ 4,835
Recreation & Culture	<u>691</u>
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 5,526</u>

6. Deficit Fund Balance or Retained Earnings Balances of Individual Funds

None

Township of Columbus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

7. Interfund Receivables, Payables, & Transfers

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as "Due from other funds" or "Due to other funds" on the balance sheet. The amounts of interfund receivables and payables are as follows:

	<u>Due From Other Funds</u>		<u>Due To Other Funds</u>
General Fund	\$ 18,454	Tax Collection Fund	\$ 18,454
General Fund	247,727	Trust & Agency Fund	247,727
Garbage Collection Fund	<u>3,699</u>	Trust & Agency Fund	<u>3,699</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 269,880</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 269,880</u></u>

Interfund Transfers reported in the Fund Statements are as follows:

NONE

8. Post Employment Benefits

The Township does not provide any post employment benefits.

9. Deferred Compensation

The Township offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with IRC Section 457. The assets of the plan were held in trust, as described in IRC Section 457(g) for the exclusive benefit of the participants and their beneficiaries. The custodian thereof of the exclusive benefit of the participants holds the custodial account for the beneficiaries of this Section 457 plan, and the assets may not be diverted to any other use. The Administrators are agents of the employer for purposes of providing direction to the custodian of the custodial account from time to time for the investment of the funds held in the account, transfer of assets to or from the account and all other matters. In accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement 32, plan balances and activities are not reflected in the Township's financial statements.

10. Risk Management

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, employee injuries, as well as medical and workman's compensation benefits provided to employees. The Township has purchased commercial insurance for the various risks of loss stated above.

Settled claims for the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of coverage in any of the past three years. There was no reduction in coverage's obtained through commercial insurance during the past year.

Required Supplemental Information

Township of Columbus
Required Supplemental Information
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Amended Budget</u>
Property Taxes	\$ 198,969.00	\$ 198,969.00	\$ 203,229.50	\$ 4,260.50
Garbage Assessment	-	-	-	-
State Shared Revenues	316,349.00	316,349.00	317,513.00	1,164.00
Charges for Services	12,500.00	12,500.00	9,570.00	(2,930.00)
Licenses, Reviews & Fees	3,700.00	3,700.00	2,237.50	(1,462.50)
Interest Earnings	10,804.00	10,804.00	59,731.68	48,927.68
Miscellaneous Revenues				
METRO Act	-	-	5,155.10	5,155.10
Refunds & Miscellaneous	41,600.00	41,600.00	17,718.05	(23,881.95)
Cemetery Care	2,500.00	2,500.00	5,840.00	3,340.00
Cable TV Fee	-	-	17,382.14	17,382.14
County Park Revenue	-	-	19,226.09	19,226.09
<u>Total Miscellaneous Revenue</u>	<u>44,100.00</u>	<u>44,100.00</u>	<u>65,321.38</u>	<u>21,221.38</u>
 <u>Total Revenues</u>	 <u>\$ 586,422.00</u>	 <u>\$ 586,422.00</u>	 <u>\$ 657,603.06</u>	 <u>\$ 71,181.06</u>

Township of Columbus

Required Supplemental Information

Budgetary Comparison Schedule

General Fund

For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

	Original	Amended		Variance
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>with</u> <u>Amended</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>General Government</u>				
Township Board	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 6,800.00	6,723.14	\$ 76.86
Clerk	24,258.41	25,258.41	25,389.83	(131.42)
Treasurer	40,243.42	43,243.42	44,644.95	(1,401.53)
Supervisor	20,664.21	21,364.21	21,221.06	143.15
Assessor	46,600.00	49,600.00	44,352.27	5,247.73
General Administration	103,450.00	103,450.00	106,610.07	(3,160.07)
Board of Review	2,900.00	2,900.00	2,446.78	453.22
Township Hall & Grounds	9,600.00	12,600.00	13,385.65	(785.65)
Elections	7,900.00	7,900.00	7,551.27	348.73
Insurance	9,000.00	10,500.00	10,032.00	468.00
Cemetery Care	8,600.00	10,600.00	8,541.04	2,058.96
Payroll Taxes	7,250.00	7,250.00	5,108.20	2,141.80
<u>Total General Government</u>	<u>285,766.04</u>	<u>301,466.04</u>	<u>296,006.26</u>	<u>5,459.78</u>
<u>Public Safety</u>				
Fire Protection	118,000.00	118,000.00	63,490.02	54,509.98
Law Enforcement	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,600.00	(100.00)
Planning & Zoning	40,500.00	40,500.00	28,642.93	11,857.07
<u>Total Public Safety</u>	<u>162,000.00</u>	<u>162,000.00</u>	<u>95,732.95</u>	<u>66,267.05</u>
<u>Public Works</u>				
Roads & Bridges	160,000.00	190,000.00	169,482.75	20,517.25
Refuse Collection	1,000.00	4,500.00	4,266.75	233.25
Drains at Large	6,000.00	6,000.00	2,753.41	3,246.59
Street Lights	3,500.00	3,500.00	2,341.10	1,158.90
<u>Total Public Works</u>	<u>170,500.00</u>	<u>204,000.00</u>	<u>178,844.01</u>	<u>25,155.99</u>
<u>Recreation & Culture</u>	<u>3,700.00</u>	<u>3,700.00</u>	<u>6,878.87</u>	<u>(3,178.87)</u>
<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>621,966.04</u>	<u>671,166.04</u>	<u>577,462.09</u>	<u>93,703.95</u>
<u>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</u>	<u>(35,544.04)</u>	<u>(84,744.04)</u>	<u>80,140.97</u>	<u>(22,522.89)</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</u>				
Transfers In (Out)	-	-	-	-
<u>Excess of Revenues & Other Sources Over (Under)</u>				
<u>Expenditures & Other Uses</u>	<u>(35,544.04)</u>	<u>(84,744.04)</u>	<u>80,140.97</u>	<u>164,885.01</u>
<u>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</u>	<u>73,000.00</u>	<u>73,000.00</u>	<u>1,244,593.72</u>	<u>1,171,593.72</u>
<u>Fund Balance - End of Year</u>	<u>\$ 37,455.96</u>	<u>\$ (11,744.04)</u>	<u>1,324,734.69</u>	<u>\$ 1,336,478.73</u>

Township of Columbus
Required Supplemental Information
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
Building Inspection Fund
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Actual	Variance with Amended Budget
<u>Revenues</u>				
Licenses & Permits	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 47,000.00	27,959.85	\$ (19,040.15)
Other Revenues	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Revenues</u>	47,000.00	47,000.00	27,959.85	(19,040.15)
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Building Inspectors:				
Wages	30,000.00	30,000.00	16,726.05	13,273.95
Insurance	-	-	-	-
Office Supplies	500.00	500.00	909.76	(409.76)
Transportation	5,000.00	5,000.00	2,277.86	2,722.14
Education & Seminars	2,000.00	2,000.00	819.25	1,180.75
Memberships & Dues	550.00	550.00	305.00	245.00
Telephone	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,313.20	186.80
Payroll Taxes	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,279.40	720.60
Other Expenditures	3,850.00	3,850.00	1,229.13	2,620.87
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	45,400.00	45,400.00	24,859.65	20,540.35
<u>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</u>	1,600.00	1,600.00	3,100.20	1,500.20
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>				
Operating Transfers In (Out)	-	-	-	-
<u>Excess of Revenues & Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Uses</u>	1,600.00	1,600.00	3,100.20	1,500.20
<u>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</u>	-	-	44,138.80	44,138.80
<u>Fund Balance - End of Year</u>	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 47,239.00	\$ 45,639.00

Township of Columbus
Required Supplemental Information
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
Garbage Collection Fund
For The Year Ended March 31, 2008

	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Actual	Variance with Amended Budget
<u>Revenues</u>				
Garbage Special Assessment	\$ -	\$ -	147,052.80	\$ 147,052.80
Other Revenues	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Revenues</u>	-	-	147,052.80	147,052.80
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Contracted Services	-	-	144,186.74	(144,186.74)
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	-	-	144,186.74	(144,186.74)
<u>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</u>	-	-	2,866.06	2,866.06
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>				
Operating Transfers In (Out)	-	-	-	-
<u>Excess of Revenues & Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Uses</u>	-	-	2,866.06	2,866.06
<u>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</u>	-	-	(2,460.52)	(2,460.52)
<u>Fund Balance - End of Year</u>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405.54	\$ 405.54

LEHN L. KING
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

3531 MAIN STREET
MARLETTE, MICHIGAN 48453

Phone 989-635-3113
Fax 989-635-5580

June 11, 2008

Columbus Township
1732 Bauman Road
Columbus, MI 48063

To Members of the Board:

I have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Columbus for the year ended March 31, 2008, and have issued my report thereon dated June 11, 2008. Professional standards require that I provide you with the following information related to my audit.

My Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in my engagement letter dated October 9, 2006, my responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. My audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

I performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of my engagement letter, I will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Township of Columbus are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ending March 31, 2008. I noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

I encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing my audit.

Audit Adjustments (Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements)

Professional standards require me to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to my satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. I am pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of my audit.

Management Representations

I have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated June 11, 2008.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with me to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To my knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

I generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of my professional relationship and my responses were not a condition to my retention.

Communication of Significant Deficiencies and Material Weaknesses

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, I considered the Township of Columbus's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be significant deficiencies and other deficiencies that I consider to be material weaknesses.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or a combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. I considered the following deficiencies to be significant deficiencies in internal control:

Preparation of Financial Statements - Management prepares internal financial information to assess operations and the financial position of the Township of Columbus on an ongoing basis. Although the internal financial information is sufficient to operate the Township, it is not presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Township contracts with me, the auditor, to draft the financial statements, including all necessary notes, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, since it does not retain staffing that currently have the expertise. I believe this meets the definition of a material weakness under *Statement on Auditing Standards 112*.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or a combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. The AICPA Auditing Standards Board issued Statements on Audit Standards (SAS) 112 which establishes standards and provides guidance on communicating matters related to an entity's internal control over financial reporting and is effective for periods ending after December 15, 2006. According to SAS 112, it is considered to be a control deficiency if a client I am auditing has ineffective controls over the preparation of their financial statements such that client controls are absent or controls are not effective in preventing or detecting material misstatements in the preparation of the financial statements, including the related footnotes.

Accrual Adjustments – During the audit, I generally provide significant assistance in identifying and posting accrual adjustments to the accounting records. Accruals represent any adjustments other than cash that impact the accounting records. I bring this to your attention since it meets the above definition on a matter to be communicated.

Segregation of Duties - The relative size of the Township of Columbus limits the extent to which the officials can segregate duties and responsibilities which impairs the basic premise that no one individual should have access to both the physical assets and the related accounting records (or all recording tasks of a transaction from inception to completion).

The Township has implemented mitigating controls to strengthen internal controls and the segregation of duties; however, it must be recognized that the risk of intentional or unintentional errors could be made and not detected in a timely manner.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Columbus Township's internal control.

My consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, I believe the significant deficiencies described above to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Columbus Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

During the course of my examination, certain items have come to my attention on which I would like to comment and offer my recommendations.

- 1) It is my opinion that the Tax Account should be zeroed out as of the end of the fiscal year. The Tax Account is a Trust and Agency Account and should distribute the funds to the appropriate Agency or Governmental Fund within a reasonable amount of time.
- 2) It is my opinion that the Garbage Assessment should be transferred out of the Tax Collection Fund and be deposited into a newly established Garbage Collection Fund. The garbage collection bills should be paid from the account in which the assessment is being deposited.
- 3) An exact list of the bonds held by the Township should be established and the dollar amount of these bonds accounted for on a perpetual basis. A ledger should be maintained, so that, as the bonds are collected and disbursed, the amount of the bonds outstanding can be determined on a monthly basis. This balance then should be reconciled with the actual amount of cash in the Trust and Agency bank account.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of the Township of Columbus, and Federal and State agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Lehn King

Lehn L. King
Certified Public Accountant